

Course: SLIS 711-Fall 2019
Instructor: Edward Blessing
Assignment: Paper 1: Literature Review
Due date: November 11, 11:59pm
Grade Value: 10 points

This is a major assignment in the sense that it requires each student to conduct a thorough investigation of a topic. The 6-8 page limit may appear very non-major to student used to writing lengthy projects. Please be informed that excellence is the major criterion of evaluation, not weight. *You will need to cite a minimum of 8 resources in this paper; students in the past have cited as many as 20.*

The paper will consist of an Introduction, a Text, a Conclusions section, and Works Cited. The **Introduction** announces, defines, and states the importance of the selected topic. The **Text** contains the findings. Use APA internal citations. For guidance on these please consult the Thomas Cooper Library's citation guide: <http://guides.library.sc.edu/citation/apa> **Conclusions** contain the writer's response to the findings. **Works cited** contains the sources used. If used, they must be cited. If not used (merely inspected), they do not appear.

Format: 6-8 numbered pages, double spaced, Calibri 12 point font. APA format must be used for citations as well as running header, page number, and coversheet. The page limit includes the APA format Cover sheet as well as your Works Cited section.

Overview:

Please follow this link for an excellent discussion and examination of what makes a good social sciences literature review: <https://libguides.usc.edu/writingguide/literaturereview>

Definition:

A literature review surveys books, scholarly articles, and any other sources relevant to a particular issue, area of research, or theory, and by so doing, provides a description, summary, and critical evaluation of these works in relation to the research area being investigated. Literature reviews are designed to provide an overview of sources you have explored while studying a particular topic and to demonstrate to your readers how this within a larger field of study.

Note: in the social sciences, a literature review usually has an organizational pattern and combines both summary and synthesis, often within specific conceptual categories. A summary is a recap of the important information of the source, but a synthesis is a reorganization, or a reshuffling, of that information in a way that informs how you are planning to investigate a research problem.

The purpose of a literature review is to:

- Place each work in the context of its contribution to understanding the problem being studied.

- Describe the relationship of each work to the others under consideration.
- Identify new ways to interpret these ideas.
- Reveal any gaps that exist in the literature.
- Resolve conflicts amongst seemingly contradictory previous studies.
- Identify areas of prior scholarship to prevent duplication of effort.
- Point the way in fulfilling a need for additional work.

This paper should synthesize some of the assigned readings for this course, the individual readings you are doing for this course, other readings that relate to your topic, and other works that you have read and have impacted your archival thinking. As stated above: *You will need to cite a minimum of 8 resources in this paper; students in the past have cited as many as 20.*

I would encourage you to have fun with this writing exercise. Use it to find or hone your writing voice or persona, and tackle topics that are important to you.

Grading Criteria

Instructor Comments

The paper considers an important topic and argues well for that importance in the Introduction

The Text is nicely organized and supported by a minimum of 8 sources.

The paper observes the C, I, T, C, WC format and page limit.
[Cover, Intro, Text, Conclusion, Works Cited]

The paper is typo-free, “you” free, and verbs tenses agree.

The Conclusions are strong and demonstrate serious engagement by the writer.

The paper is formatted according to APA, and is 6-8 pages in length.